THE REVELATION

The Lamb on the Throne

Revelation 5:1-14

As we move on to chapter five, we encounter an expansion of the revelation John began to report in the previous chapter. The chapter begins with the revelation of the scroll which is securely sealed, but is primarily about the Lion of the Tribe of Judah—the Lamb that was slain. These two chapters bring us into the manifestation of the throne of God over the universe and find their culmination in Revelation 22 as we see the full unfolding of the Triune God in the unified identity of the One upon the Throne, the Lamb, and the Spirit of God.

I. The Significance of the Sealed Scroll (Rev 5:1-5)

- A. It is securely sealed with seven seals and, at first, it appears that no one can open it or break its seals.
- B. The scroll is written on on both sides and demands inquiry and understanding, having great importance (being implied in the revelation), and John weeps and weeps because it appears no one can open it and reveal its contents
- C. As one of the elders comforts John and tells him that there is One Who is worthy and able to break the seals and open the scroll, we discover the true significance as being the salvation story of rebellious people through the ages

II. The Lion and the Lamb (Rev. 5:6)

- A. The Lion from the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome and is worthy to open the scroll and break the seals
- B. John turns to see One <u>standing</u> between the Throne and the elders—the first strong indication that this One is equal to the One upon the throne
- C. As John turns to see the Lion he sees, instead, a Lamb as if slaughtered, standing
 - 1. He has seven horns (in the theme of the Lamb)
 - 2. He has seven eyes from which proceed the sevenfold Spirit of God

III. The Story of the Scroll and the Glory of Salvation by the Lamb (Rev. 5:7-10)

- A. As the Lamb takes the scroll from the One on the throne, the 4 creatures and the elders fall down and worship
- B. The elders hold the prayers of the saints through the ages in golden bowls—our prayers are never lost nor forgotten before the Presence of God
- C. The worthiness of the Lamb to open the scroll is because of His redemptive mission in salvation—He has redeemed a remnant of people from every tribe and language and nation
- D. The redeemed have been made priests to God and will reign upon the earth

IV. The Lion-Lamb is the Eternal Son of God, Fully Equal to the Father God (Rev. 5:11-14)

- A. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing
- B. The Lamb is worshipped by the 4 living creatures, and the elders, and all the angels, and every created thing in the universe
- C. And the song of worship they sing to the Lamb and to the One upon the throne is: blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever
- D. And the four living creatures and the elders fall down and worship THE LAMB & THE ONE ON THE THRONE. There can be no question that the Lamb, the Son of God and our Savior-Redeemer is, in every way, equal to the One on the Throne

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the significance of the scroll?
- Does John see a Lion in the heavenly throne room?
- How does John describe the Lamb? What is His posture?
- 4. What does the posture of the Lamb indicate? How does it relate to the One on the throne? How does it relate to our salvation?
- 5. Give at least two different statements from this passage that imply that the Lamb is equal to the One on the throne.
- What does this say about the nature and Person of our Lord Jesus?
- 7. What is the significance of the Lion-Lamb in the Person of Jesus Christ?

	NOTES
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The Scroll and the Lamb

5 Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. ² And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, "Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?" ³But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. 4 I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. 5 Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals."

⁶Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders. The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits[a] of God sent out into all the earth. ⁷He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. 8 And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people. ⁹ And they sang a new song, saying:

"You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain,

and with your blood you purchased for

persons from every tribe and language and people and nation.

¹⁰ You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign^[b] on the earth."

¹¹ Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. ¹² In a loud voice they were saying:

"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb

be praise and honor and glory and for ever and ever!"

¹⁴ The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshiped.